

## Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 IO-10 ISO-00 EB-07 L-03 H-02 CIAE-00 INR-07

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R 171708Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8303

INFO USDEL MTN GENEVA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, EAGR

SUBJECT: LIVESTOCK TRADE ISSUES

REF: MEXICO 2243 AND 1538

1. AGATT AND STARKEY CALLED ON RAMOS CANTORAL JUNE 16 TO REVIEW STATUS OF LIVESTOCK IMPORT DUTIES AND OTHER TRADE MATTERS. STARKEY POINTED OUT THAT IMPORT DUTIES FOR BEEF CATTLE AND HOGS WERE STILL MATTER OF ACTIVE CONCERN DESPITE REDUCTION IN DUTY FOR BEEF CATTLE TO DOLS 60 PER HEAD. ALSO REITERATED POINTS MENTIONED IN AGATT'S LETTER OF FEBRUARY 25 AND POINTED OUT IMPLICATION OF LACK OF PROGRESS IN RESOLVING THIS PROBLEM FOR MEXICO'S INTEREST IN THE MTN.

2. AGATT ALSO ASKED ABOUT RECENT LICENSING PROBLEMS FOR VARIETY MEATS. ACCORDING TO IMPORTER LICENSES HAVE NOT BEEN ISSUED SINCE MARCH. THIS HAS BEEN CONFIRMED BY COMMERCE DEPT. STATING THAT PRESSURE BEING BROUGHT BY LIVESTOCK ASSOCIATION TO CUT OFF IMPORTS OF "MEAT SUBSTITUTES" IN VIEW OF CURRENT MARKETING DIFFICULTIES FOR LIVE CATTLE AND BEEF IN U.S. COMMERCE HAS INDICATED THAT MEASURE MAY BE TEMPORARY AND LICENSING RESUMED IN SEPTEMBER. LETTERS ON THIS SUBJECT BEING HAND CARRIED BY STARKEY.

3. RAMOS STATED THAT DUTY QUESTION STILL BEING REVIEWED IN  
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SAG AND STATED THEIR CHIEF CONCERN WAS TO DISCOURAGE IMPORTS

OF LOW QUALITY BREEDING STOCK (SEE REFTELS) WHICH HE STATED HAS BEEN PROBLEM FOR SOME TIME. PREVIOUS DISCUSSION WITH LIVESTOCK DIRECTOR SOLANO HAS SURFACED GOM SUSPICIONS CONCERNING VALIDITY OF CERTIFICATES F REGISTRY FOR SOME BREEDS.

4. RAMOS SUGGESTED FURTHER MEETING WITH SUBSECRETARY RETA PETTERSSON ON JUNE 25 OR 26 TO DISCUSS POSSIBLE ALTERNATIVE SOLUTIONS TO RESOLVE QUALITY PROBLEM. ONE POSSIBILITY WOULD BE CERTIFICATION BY EITHER USDA OR BREED ASSOCIATION THAT BREEDING CATTLE FOR MEXICO ARE FROM RECOGNIZED BREEDERS OR HIGH QUALITY SIRES AND THAT SUCH ANIMALS WOULD BE PERMITTED DUTY-FREE ENTRY.

5. AGATT SUGGESTS IT WOULD BE HELPFUL TO HAVE LIVESTOCK MARKETING EXPERT AVAILABLE FOR ABOVE MEETING. ALSO WOULD APPRECIATE SUPPORTING MATERIAL ON TRADE DAMAGE RESULTING FROM IMPOSITION IMPORT DUTIES AS WELL AS USDA VIEWS ON PRACTICALITY O QUALITY CERTIFICATE.

6. WE ALSO PLAN TO DISCUSS LICENSING PROBLEM AND WOULD APPRECIATE ANY SUPPORTING ARGUMENTS FOR OUR CASE. WE HAVE POINTED OUT IN LETTERS THAT VARIETY MEATS CHIEFLY CONSUMED BY LOW INCOME GROUPS AND THUS OF BENEFIT TO THIS CONSUMING SECTOR. JOVA

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## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
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